



## Army probes whether troops wrongly targeted in bonus scandal



The Pentagon is seen from Air Force One as it flies over Washington, March 2, 2022. Years after about 1,900 National Guard and Reserve soldiers were swept up in a recruiting bonus scandal, U.S. Army investigators have launched a review saying that some individuals may have been wrongly blamed and punished, The Associated Press has learned.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky, File)

By Lolita C. Baldor  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Years after about 1,900 National Guard and Reserve soldiers were swept up in a recruiting bonus scandal, U.S. Army investigators are reviewing the cases and correcting records because some individuals were wrongly blamed and punished, Army officials said Thursday. The Army's Criminal Investigation Division said it will complete a review of the bulk of the 1,900 soldiers by the end of this year to identify and begin to fix the mistakes. CID said agents during the initial investigation may have misunderstood facts or failed to follow proper procedures and erroneously added soldiers' names to an FBI crime database and Pentagon records. Officials said that at the time, CID agents were grappling with a massive

probe involving 100,000 people and hundreds of thousands of dollars in potentially fraudulent bonus payments.

"Simply put, proper procedures were not always followed," CID Director Greg Ford said in a statement provided to the AP. Ford said Thursday that so far CID has reviewed cases of about 900 individuals, and a majority of them require some type of corrective action. He said that up to 200 of those have been completed and corrected, and individuals will be notified. He said "a number" of individuals contacted CID early this year saying they believed they were wrongly listed on the FBI database, and as agents began to review the files they found problems with the cases. As a result, he said he ordered a review of all cases.

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## A nod to Aruba's icons during Aruba Art Fair



## Aruba National Park Foundation continued with consultation process for management of Marine Park



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# US agency softens opioid prescribing guidelines for doctors



This June 17, 2019, file photo shows 5-mg pills of Oxycodone. The nation's top public health agency on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022, revised its controversial guidelines for U.S. doctors prescribing oxycodone and other opioid painkillers.

(AP Photo/Keith Srakocic, File)

**By Mike Stobbe**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The nation's top public health agency on Thursday softened its guidelines for U.S. doctors prescribing oxy-

codone and other opioid painkillers. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention new recommendations are an update to 2016 guidelines that added momentum to a decline in

opioid painkiller prescriptions. Opioids painkillers can be addictive — even when used under doctors' orders — and were identified as a big reason for a rise in U.S. drug overdoses

that began more than two decades ago. Other drugs have overtaken them in overdose statistics, and illicit fentanyl is now the biggest driver of deaths. The previous guidance suc-

ceeded in reducing inappropriate and dangerous prescribing, some experts say. But they also were seen as a barrier to care, with some pharmacists refusing to fill prescriptions as doctors wrote them.

The new guidelines are designed to ensure that patients get compassionate and safe pain care, CDC officials said.

A draft released in February received 5,500 public comments. Some modifications were made, but several main changes stayed in place, including:

The CDC no longer suggests trying to limit opioid treatment for acute pain to three days.

The agency is dropping the specific recommendation that doctors avoid increasing dosage to a level equivalent to 90 milligrams of morphine per day.

For patients receiving higher doses of opioids, the CDC is urging doctors to not abruptly halt treatment unless there are indications of a life-threatening danger. The agency offers suggestions on tapering patients off the drugs. □

## Army probes whether troops wrongly targeted in bonus scandal

**Continued from Front**

"CID is fully committed to identifying and correcting all records to align with the documentation and evidence present in case file," Ford told reporters on Thursday. "CID takes our responsibilities in this area very seriously. And it is clear that we fell short in a large number of these investigations." The new investigation comes as National Guard Bureau leaders are pushing to launch another recruiting bonus program, in an attempt to boost lagging enlistment numbers. And they want to ensure that any new program doesn't have similar fraud and abuse problems.

Guard leaders have talked about providing incentive pay to recruiters and Guard troops who bring in new recruits. The Army

Guard missed its recruiting goal for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, and more soldiers were leaving each month than the number enlisting. "By putting the right checks and balances in place, we could really help make every single guardsman a recruiter by paying them a bonus for anybody that they bring into the organization that's able to complete their military training," Gen. Dan Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, told reporters in September. He said procedures needed to be fixed so that fraud didn't happen again.

The Army began an audit of the recruiting program in 2011, amid complaints that Guard and Reserve soldiers and recruiters were fraudulently collecting bonuses during the peak years of the Iraq and Afghanistan

wars in order to fill the ranks. In the program, which was run by contractors, soldiers were offered \$2,000 if they referred someone to recruiters who ended up actually enlisting.

Audits found overpayments, fraud by recruiters and others and poor oversight. The program was canceled in 2012, and Army CID was called in to investigate the cases.

Between 2012 and 2016, CID opened about 900 cases. Altogether, officials said, about 286 soldiers received some type of administrative punishment or action from their military commanders, and more than 130 were prosecuted in civilian courts. Soldiers repaid more than \$478,000 to the U.S. Treasury, and paid nearly \$60,000 in fines, officials said this week.

The repayments, however,

triggered a backlash from Congress, as soldiers complained that they were being wrongfully targeted. In 2016, Defense Secretary Ash Carter ordered the Pentagon to suspend the effort to recoup the enlistment bonuses, which in some cases totaled more than \$25,000. Officials argued at the time that many soldiers getting the bonuses weren't aware the payments were improper or not authorized. Overall, officials said 1,900 names were added to an FBI criminal database, and hundreds more were listed on an internal Defense Department database as someone who was the subject of a criminal investigation. Such listings can hurt a soldier's career, affect promotions or — in the case of the FBI data — prevent someone from getting a job or a gun

permit. Soldiers can request a review of their case, and already dozens have done so. The CID review will determine if soldiers' names should be removed from either database, officials said, and the individuals will be notified of the results.

Officials said that each case is different, and it's not clear how many — if any — could receive any compensation, back pay or other retroactive benefits. The entire process could take until spring 2024. Hokanson said the previous bonus program worked in that it brought in thousands of recruits, and could work again if properly done. And he said Guard leaders around the country would like to try something like it again. No final decision on launching a new bonus program has been made, according to the Guard. □



# New calculator tackles inequality in missing persons stories

By David Bauder

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — If you went missing, how much press would you be “worth”? The Columbia Journalism Review unveiled a tool on Thursday that calculates the number of stories your disappearance would net, based on demographics.

It sounds morbid but the exercise is designed to call attention to “missing white women syndrome,” the tendency of news organizations to pay relatively little attention to missing people who don’t fit that category.

The late journalist Gwen Ifill is credited with coining the term two decades ago. Yet in the interim, there’s been little indication that coverage decisions have evolved.

“It’s like a bolt that has been rusted in place,” said Jelani Cobb, dean of the Columbia Journalism School.

The media firestorm around the disappearance and death of Gabby Petito last year renewed scrutiny of the practice, with Petito’s own family imploring media to give all missing people the same attention.

Researchers at CJR and the ad agency TBWA/Chiat/Day/New York examined 3,600 stories about missing people done last year by U.S.-based news organizations, cross-referencing them with age, gender

and race details from a database maintained by the U.S. Department of Justice. The data was used to generate a rough estimate of how much public attention a person would get based on who they are, said Kyle Pope, CJR’s editor in chief and publisher. The starkly named site AreYouPress-worthy.com asks users to enter their age, gender, location and ethnicity.

As the site goes through each step, the user is informed that the disappearance of older people and men are less likely to make the news. The tool distinguishes between stories in the local and national press, so people in larger cities — where there are more news outlets — have a “higher chance of being reported on than people in rural areas.” White people are the most likely to get covered, while Black and Hispanic people have the lowest chance of coverage.

About 38% of the people who go missing in the United States are Black, more than double the percentage of Black people in the general population, the Black and Missing Foundation says.

Black people accounted for 22% of the missing people in the data examined by CJR, and just 13% of the news stories. White people, who made up 47% of the missing person cases, were

featured in 70% of the stories.

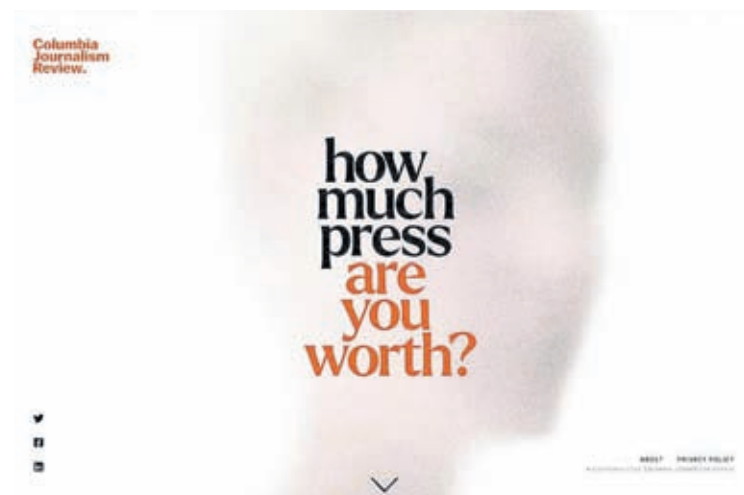
According to the calculator, the disappearance of a 22-year-old white woman in New York would generate 67 stories. If she were three years older, that number would drop to 19. And a missing 25-year-old Black woman from New York would get eight. A 50-year-old Black man in the same city would net six.

The results page also identifies the outlets most and least likely to cover the user’s hypothetical disappearance and calculates what percentage of Americans would hear about you. More than 92% of Americans would have heard about a 22-year-old missing white woman from Nevada, the tool says. Why does that matter? “When a missing persons’ case is seen by more people, their chances of being found increase,” the site states.

There was no comparable data from when “missing white person syndrome” was first talked about two decades ago.

“We have to place a spotlight on the way that the media functions and the way in which we devalue — inadvertently or not — the lives of people that we’re supposed to cover,” Cobb said.

Implicit bias is partly to blame, he said, along with a lack of diversity among



This screenshot shows the The Columbia Journalism Review website. If you went missing, how much press would you be “worth”? The Columbia Journalism Review unveiled a tool on Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022 that calculates the number of stories your disappearance would net, based on demographics.

(AP Photo)

journalists in decision-making roles and hard-to-break habits.

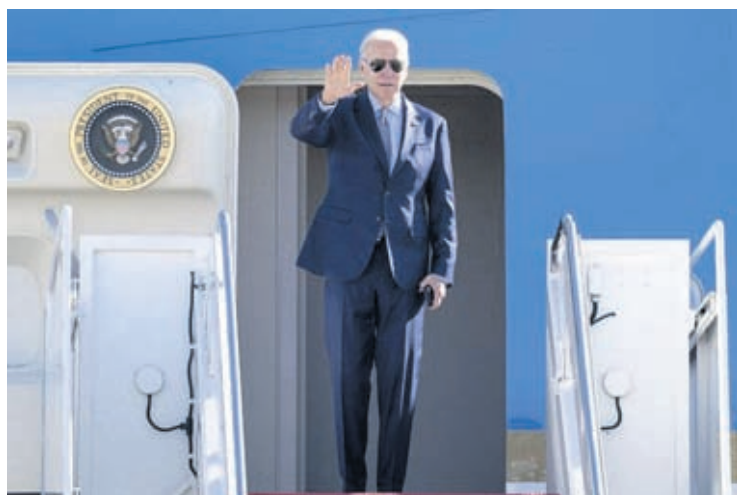
“There’s clearly an imbalance,” said Angeline Hartmann, spokesperson for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. “What needs to happen is the playing field should be leveled.”

But Hartmann said there is more than just demographics at play in determining what stories get coverage. The media also gravitates to stories where there are plenty of photos and videos available of the victim — like in Petito’s case — and a family member willing to be an on-camera spokesperson. Those things make journalists’ job easier. Similarly, authorities need to take a close look at how situations are character-

ized, Hartmann said. Sometimes, she said, people are too simplistically characterized as runaways, and thus not included in stories about missing children.

CJR has made similar efforts to call attention to disinformation and coverage of climate control and issues surrounding guns.

Pope said he hoped their newest online tool will attract attention on social media, particularly among news consumers who might then put pressure on their local news outlets to keep the issue in mind. Each results page ends with the pictures and names of people who are currently missing and “haven’t received any press coverage at all,” along with an encouragement to contact authorities with any information. □



President Joe Biden waves as he boards Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022, en route to New Mexico.

(AP Photo/Jess Rapfogel)

By Aamer Madhani

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Presi-

dent Joe Biden’s travel plan for his last big campaign swing before Tuesday’s

## In campaign swing, Biden focuses on incumbent Democrats

midterm elections reveals his defensive stance in the campaign’s closing days: He’s spending the bulk of his time trying to hang on to seats that his party already holds.

Biden is kicking off a four-state, three-day campaign swing on Thursday to support Democrats in competitive races in solidly blue California, Illinois and New Mexico as well as battleground Pennsylvania, where Biden has deep roots. His itinerary illustrates the limited political clout of

a president who has been held at arm’s length by most Democrats in tough races this cycle. It also suggests that the president, whose approval rating remains underwater, has concluded that he can be most effective using the waning days before polls close to shore up support for Democratic candidates in areas that he easily won in 2020.

The president’s party typically faces significant losses during midterm elections. Since 1934, only Franklin D.

Roosevelt in 1934, Bill Clinton in 1998, and George W. Bush in 2002 saw their parties gain seats in the midterms.

Some recent presidents saw big losses in their first midterm races. Republicans under Donald Trump lost 40 House seats but gained two Senate seats in 2018; Democrats under Barack Obama lost 63 House seats and six Senate seats in 2010; and Democrats under Bill Clinton lost 52 House seats and eight Senate seats in 1994. □



# Cities seek to control camping amid growing homeless crisis

By Claire Rush  
Associated Press

**PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)** — The tents proliferating on sidewalks in downtown and residential neighborhoods across Portland, Oregon, are fueling a debate that's playing out in cities nationwide as the homelessness crisis in the U.S. explodes: Should camping be banned anywhere except in sanctioned sites?

Republican-led states including Texas and Missouri have passed laws in the past couple years prohibiting street camping while diverting money from affordable housing projects to short-term shelter solutions. Now, after decades of struggling to tackle homelessness, some progressive West Coast cities are considering similar plans. Portland City Council members will vote Thursday on a proposal to create at least three large designated campsites and ban the rest of the roughly 700 encampments currently scattered across the city. More than 3,000 people are living without shelter in Portland, a 50% jump from 2019, according to the proposal.

"The magnitude and the depth of the homeless crisis in our city is nothing short of a humanitarian catastro-



**Tents line the sidewalk on SW Clay St in Portland, Ore., on Dec. 9, 2020. City council members in Portland, Oregon, are set to vote on a resolution that would ban homeless street camping.**

(AP Photo/Craig Mitchell/der, File)

phe," Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said last month when he unveiled the plan. "We need to move our scattered, vulnerable homeless population closer to the services that they need." "As visible homelessness has increased, there is also an increase in pressure from the public and from others for elected officials and other folks in positions of authority to address that issue," said Ann Oliva, CEO of the National Alliance to End Homelessness. "What's

starting to happen is that the way to immediately address an issue that is at its core an affordable housing problem is to try and remove people from public view." Portland's soaring homelessness has become a top concern for the vast majority of residents and has prompted legal action. A group of people with disabilities has sued the city over tents blocking sidewalks and making them inaccessible. Portland's proposal would establish at

least three designated sites where camping would be allowed, with an initial capacity to serve about 150 people each. They would have 24-hour management and provide access to services such as food, hygiene, litter collection and treatment for mental health and substance abuse. Outreach workers would direct people living on the street to the designated camping sites. Those who refuse could be cited, but the citations could be

waived if the person takes part in a diversion program that would require mental health or substance abuse treatment in lieu of jail time. Denver, Colorado, and Austin, Texas, have also passed ordinances both banning public camping and allowing sanctioned campsites. Denver has opened several "safe outdoor spaces" since 2020 where tents, food and other services are provided. In Austin, the Esperanza community is a sanctioned encampment that serves about 150 people and is currently constructing 200 individual shelter units.

The Cicero Institute, which wrote the model legislation that inspired many of the recent camping ban policies, says creating specific areas where camping is permitted can be a faster solution for cities compared to building affordable housing.

"One of the biggest problems that sanctioned camping is trying to address is just the unbelievable difficulty of getting more shovels in the ground to get shelter or other sorts of services available for the homeless," said Judge Glock, the group's senior director of policy and research. □

# In 1 classroom, 4 teachers manage 135 kids -- and love it

By Neal Morton, The Hechinger Report  
Associated Press

**MESA, Ariz. (AP)** — A teacher-in-training darted among students, tallying



**Westwood High School English teacher Jeff Hall, top center, monitors his class, Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022 in Mesa, Ariz. Like many school districts across the country, Mesa has a teacher shortage due in part due to low morale and declining interest in the profession.**

(AP Photo/Matt York)

how many needed his help with a history unit on Islam. A veteran math teacher hovered near a cluster of desks, coaching some 50 freshmen on a geometry assignment. A science teacher checked students' homework, while an English teacher spoke into a microphone at the front of the classroom, giving instruction, to keep students on track.

One hundred thirty-five students, four teachers, one giant classroom: This is what ninth grade looks like at Westwood High School, in Mesa, Arizona's largest school system. There, an innovative teaching model has taken hold, and is

spreading to other schools in the district and beyond. Five years ago, faced with high teacher turnover and declining student enrollment, Westwood's leaders decided to try something different. Working with professors at Arizona State University's teachers college, they piloted a classroom model known as team teaching. It allows teachers to dissolve the walls that separate their classes across physical or grade divides.

The teachers share large groups of students sometimes 100 or more and rotate between group instruction, one-on-one interventions, small study

groups or whatever the teachers as a team agree is a priority that day. What looks at times like chaos is in fact a carefully orchestrated plan: Each morning, the Westwood teams meet for two hours of the school day to hash out a personalized program for every student, dictating the lessons, skills and assignments the team will focus on that day.

By giving teachers more opportunity to collaborate and greater control over how and what they teach, Mesa's administrators hoped to fill staffing gaps and boost teacher morale and retention. Initial research suggests the gamble could pay off. □



## Italy silent as ships with 1,000 rescued migrants seek help

By MASSIMO di NONNO  
and COLLEEN BARRY Associated Press

**ABOARD THE GEO BARENTS (AP)** — Humanitarian groups caring for 1,000 rescued migrants aboard three ships in the central Mediterranean are sounding an alarm about deteriorating conditions, but so far Italy's new far-right-led government has not responded to requests for a safe port as it hardens its position against rescue boats.

The country's new interior minister, Matteo Piantedosi, has already set the groundwork to ban humanitarian ships from its ports, while appealing to countries whose flags the rescue ships fly to take on the migrants and relieve the burden on Italy. The moves are reminiscent of the anti-NGO posture taken by League party leader Matteo Salvini, now the deputy premier, who prevented humanitarian ships from accessing Italy's ports when he was interior minister from 2018-19.

So far, Italy, along with Malta, have remained silent in response to requests for a safe port from the Doc-



Part of the some 572 survivors rescued by the NGO Geo Barents rescue ship are packed on the deck of the ship cruising in the Mediterranean Sea, in this picture taken Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022.

tors without Borders' Geo Barents with 572 people on board, SOS Mediteranee's Ocean Viking with 234 people on board and the SOS Humanity's Humanity 1 with 179 rescued people. All were rescued over a week-long period beginning Oct. 22.

Even while Italy is de facto blocking the humanitarian ships from disembarking the

1,000 people, interior ministry figures indicate that 6,383 others have been brought to its shores by Italian authorities over the last week.

Migrant arrivals by sea to Italy are rising this year, to 85,991 so far, compared with 53,825 in the same period last year but still well below peak arrivals in 2014-2016.

The crew of the Geo Barents is struggling to accommodate the migrants picked up in seven operations starting Oct. 22. They include more than 60 unaccompanied minors, yet more families with children and pregnant woman, as well as the elderly. Many are sleeping on the floors, and supplies were running low.

"We are here on board with 572 people, some of them have been with us already for 6 days," said Caroline Willemen, MSF Coordinator on the Geo Barents. "As you can see, the situation here on the deck is extremely overcrowded. People do not have space to move. The MSF team we are doing everything we can to take care of them."

"It is absolutely necessary that they can disembark as soon as possible in a place of safety," she said.

The rescued migrants were struggling with the crowded conditions and the uncertainty.

"We don't have enough space to sleep. We are sleeping down on the floor and it's very cold at morning and at night," said Khaled Mahmoud Mansour, a Palestinian. "Actually the situation is becoming day after day more difficult."

After failing to get a response from either Italy or Malta, the SOS Mediteranee also issued requests for safe ports to Greece, Spain and France. "The 234 rescued people on board must be disembarked urgently," the group said. □

## Europe urged to save natural gas to avoid shortage next year

By DAVID McHUGH

AP Business Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)

— Europe could face a severe natural gas shortage next year and needs

to act now to reduce use, the International Energy Agency said in a report Thursday, warning against complacency in an energy crisis triggered by Russia's

war in Ukraine after countries were able to build up storage of the fuel to heat homes and generate electricity this winter.

The IEA said Europe benefited from some Russian gas supplies over the summer and sharply reduced competition from China for scarce shiploads of liquefied natural gas, or LNG, and those factors could be one-offs, the Paris-based organization said. Along with mild weather, that has pushed down natural gas prices from August highs.

"With the recent mild weather and lower gas prices, there is a danger of complacency creeping into the conversation around Europe's gas supplies, but we are by no means out of the woods yet," IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said. "This is why

governments need to be taking immediate action to speed up improvements in energy efficiency and accelerate the deployment of renewables and heat pumps and other steps to structurally reduce gas demand."

The cutoff of most Russian pipeline gas because of the war in Ukraine has sparked a winter energy crisis in Europe. Russian deliveries were close to normal for the first half of the year. The country has since turned off all but a trickle of gas, and even that could be unavailable next year. On top of that, if China's imports of LNG recover to 2021 levels, that could consume over 85% of the expected increase in global supply. China's economy has been weakening due in part to strict COVID-19 re-

strictions. That all means Europe could face a shortfall of 30 billion cubic meters of gas next summer, the key period for filling supplies ahead of the winter heating season, when there is stronger demand for the fuel.

The figure represents almost half the gas required to fill storage facilities in Europe to 95% capacity before the 2023-2024 winter starts.

Use by industry has fallen as prices have grown, and a campaign to buy LNG that comes by ship from countries like the U.S. and Qatar succeeded in filling storage to 95%, according to figures compiled by Gas Infrastructure Europe, an association of companies that operate pipelines, underground storage and LNG facilities. □



A sticker reads "natural gas" on a pipe at the French company R-CUA plant, in Strasbourg, eastern France, Oct. 7, 2022. The International Energy Agency says Europe could face a severe natural gas shortage next year and needs to act now to conserve. In a report Thursday, Nov. 3 the Paris-based organization warned against complacency in an energy crisis triggered by Russia's war in Ukraine after countries were able to build up storage of the fuel to heat homes and generate electricity this winter.



# Pope urges end to death penalty as he arrives in Bahrain

By NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

**AWALI, Bahrain (AP)** — Pope Francis urged Bahrain authorities on Thursday to renounce the death penalty and ensure basic human rights are guaranteed for all citizens as he arrived in the Sunni-led kingdom that has been accused by rights groups of systematic discrimination against its Shiite majority.

With King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa by his side, Francis also urged the Arab Gulf nation to ensure "safe and dignified" working conditions for its immigrant laborers, who have long faced abuse and exploitation in the island's construction, oil extraction and domestic service industries.

While diplomatic, Francis didn't shy from some of the contentious social issues in Bahrain at the start of his four-day visit to participate in a government-sponsored interfaith conference on East-West dialogue and minister to the country's small Catholic community. The 85-year-old Francis, who has been using a wheelchair for several months because of strained knee ligaments, said he was "in a lot of pain" as he flew to the Gulf and, for the first time,



**Pope Francis is greeted by Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa as he arrives at the Sakhir Royal Palace, Bahrain, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022. Pope Francis is making the November 3-6 visit to participate in a government-sponsored conference on East-West dialogue and to minister to Bahrain's tiny Catholic community, part of his effort to pursue dialogue with the Muslim world.**

greeted journalists traveling with him seated rather than walking through the charter plane's aisle.

Human rights groups and relatives of Shiite activists on death row had urged Francis to use his visit to call for an end to capital punishment and to advocate for political dissidents, hundreds of whom have been detained since Bahrain violently crushed the 2011 Arab Spring protests with

the help of neighboring Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

In the years since, Bahrain has imprisoned Shiite activists, deported others, stripped hundreds of their citizenship, banned the largest Shiite opposition group and closed down its leading independent newspaper.

Francis referred indirectly to the sectarian strife as he arrived in the desert town

of Awali and met with Al Khalifa at the Sakhir royal palace in the first-ever papal visit to Bahrain. Speaking to government authorities and diplomats from the palace's glistening courtyard, Francis praised Bahrain's tradition of tolerance and cited Bahrain's constitution, which forbids discrimination on the basis of religion, as a stated commitment that needs to be put into practice.

Doing so, he said, would guarantee "that equal dignity and equal opportunities will be concretely recognized for each group and for every individual; that no forms of discrimination exist and that fundamental human rights are not violated but promoted." Referring to the death penalty, Francis said the government must guarantee first and foremost the right to life, and "the need to guarantee that right always, including for those being punished, whose lives should not be taken." According to the Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy, Bahrain in 2017 ended a de-facto moratorium on the death penalty and has executed six prisoners since.

The group and Human Rights Watch have documented a "dramatic increase" in the number of death sentences being handed down since 2011, with 26 people currently on death row, half for political activities.

The groups have said some were convicted after "manifestly unfair trials based solely or primarily on confession allegedly coerced through torture and ill-treatment." □

# Colombia's President promises to deepen ties with Venezuela

By MANUEL RUEDA undefined

**BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)** — The presidents of Colombia and Venezuela met on Tuesday and said they

would improve trade and security cooperation, as both countries seek to normalize relations following the election of Colombia's first leftist leader.



**Colombia's President Gustavo Petro, left center, and Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, stand side by side during a welcoming ceremony, on the steps of the Miraflores Presidential Palace, in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022.**

After the meeting in Venezuela's presidential palace, Colombian President Gustavo Petro said it was "suicidal" for the governments of Venezuela and Colombia to have become estranged from each other recently, adding that the border between the countries had been forgotten and "turned over" to criminal mafias.

Colombia's president said both countries would now look for ways to share intelligence on drug trafficking groups, and added that he would lobby for Venezuela's re-entry into the Andean Community of Nations, a regional trade and investment group that Venezuela withdrew from in 2006. Petro has asked for Venezu-

ela's support in peace talks with the National Liberation Army, or ELN, a Colombian rebel group that operates on both sides of the border. Petro's efforts to engage with Venezuela's socialist government mark a radical departure from Colombia's recent policy: Before Petro was elected in June, Colombia backed U.S. efforts to isolate Maduro's government, sanction its oil exports and force Maduro into holding free and fair elections. The United States, Colombia and dozens of other countries stopped recognizing Maduro as Venezuela's legitimate leader in 2019, after he won an election that was widely seen as undemocratic and backed a claim to Ven-

ezuela's presidency by the former National Assembly leader Juan Guaidó.

Petro changed course as soon as he was sworn into office and re-established diplomatic ties with the Maduro government. On Tuesday opposition leaders in Venezuela criticized Petro's meeting with Maduro, with Guaidó tweeting that Petro was helping to "normalize" the violation of human rights in Venezuela by "visiting dictator Maduro and calling him a president."

The International Criminal Court is currently investigating Maduro's government for human rights violations that include the torture and arbitrary detention of protesters in 2017. □



# A nod to Aruba's icons during Aruba Art Fair

**ORANJESTAD –** Starting today and during this weekend, Aruba Art Fair invites you to soak up the culture of the vibrant city of San Nicolas. This year, international artists joined the creative celebration and paid homage to Aruba's cultural icons.

Aruba Art Fair takes place from Friday the 4th of November until Sunday the 6th of November. It will be a weekend packed with art, music and creativity in the colorful city of San Nicolas. 80 artists are participating in restoring old murals as well as painting new ones, and we caught up with two of them who were paying homage to two cultural icons of Aruba, Hilario Dongen and Sarah Quita Offringa.

Sarah Quita Offringa, 31, is a worldwide windsurf sensation and 20-time World Champion (13 Freestyle, 5 Slalom & 2 Wave). Sarah Quita has a special connection to San Nicolas. Portuguese artist MR Dheo, who has participated many times in Aruba Art Fair, this year is working on a mural to honor Sarah Quita Offringa. He told us he was inspired by the nature of Aruba and wanted to include different colorful flowers for his mural, and he knew he wanted a woman at the center of it. He met Sarah Quita, and decided to dedicate the mural to her to celebrate her incredible achievements.

Hilario Doncken is a famous journalist in Aruba. This year, the government presented him with an award for his many years of service in the local press. He is known for being a long-time activist for San Nicolas and the local community. Canadian artist Jenna Schwartz found out about Hilario and decided to dedicate her mural to him. This is her first time taking part in the Aruba Art Fair and she told us she loves being on the island and learning more about the culture. In her mural she included the famous light posts at San Nicolas, which



are locally associated with Hilario as he would constantly make sure that they were working properly.

Stop by this weekend to admire the finished murals, as well as all the other artis-

tic attractions! A weekend pass costs \$20.

## Post Aruba exhibit

This year, Post Aruba is collaborating with Aruba Art Fair by holding an exhibition of 50 pieces from their private collections. These are art works that were created by local artists to be made into post stamps for the Post Office, but had never been exhibited before. The pieces were chosen to represent specific themes, and include works by local artists Gustave Nouel, Angiolina Henriquez,

Armando Goedgedrag, Nigel Matthew, Ludwig de L'isle, Ronald Lemminga and Stan Kuiperi.

Each day this weekend will be completely different. On Friday the 4th of November, most of the performers, singers and poets all come from the area of San Nicolas or are related to San Nicolas, so the night will be dedicated to celebrating the Sunrise City. Saturday will be dedicated to the youth, with participation of Arte di Palabra ("word art"), as well as different dance schools that have been celebrating anniversaries this year, for example, Club di Movimento which is celebrating 25 years. The day will be dedicated to notable events throughout the year that did not receive much exposure, but are coming to San Nicolas to be celebrated with everyone!

Finally on Sunday there will be a Multicultural Parade, celebrating that Aruba is a multicultural island. "Be it you were born here or not, your ancestors one way or another came from another place, and this makes Aruba so special", organizer Tito Bolivar said. There are 108 nationalities living in harmony in Aruba, "and I think that is one of the secrets of the One Happy Island." □





## Children's Book Festival full of events



**ORANJESTAD - The National Library of Aruba is presenting the 30th edition of the Children's Book Festival.**

This year, the Children's Book Festival theme is 'Biba Natura-Lesa!' and takes place from November 7 to 11, 2022.

The opening will take place on November 4, 2022, at the Cas di Cultura from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and includes a show for the children that starts at 6:00 pm.

As is customary every year, a group of authors and illustrators will visit most of the 60 primary-, secondary and special schools in the week of the festival. There will be activities for the children at the National Library in Oranjestad and San Nicolas from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. There will be storytelling, demonstrations, and presentations, and the authors

will share their experiences with the children and tell them more about writing, reading, and the wonderful world of books.

A book was created for the festival and is available at all the participating schools. The writers are James Ocalia and Evelien van Dort and the illustrators are Paul Wong and Wouter Goudswaard. It is also available at all bookstores.

On Monday, November 7, the "Biba Natura-Lesa" exposition will open in the Expo hall of the National Library in Oranjestad, and everyone is welcome to enjoy it. It is open from November 7 until December 2, 2022. For more information, please visit the library's website.

As well as the book festival, The National Library (Biblioteca Nacional di Aruba)

has announced its second-hand book market, which will take place from November 7 to 11, 2022.

It is a one-week event at the library in Oranjestad and San Nicolas.

The secondhand book market is open during the regular library opening hours from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. Come and dig into the large selection of secondhand books for only one florin each. You never know what kind of books you'll find.

On Monday and Wednesday, the secondhand book market is open during the evening till 7.00 pm, whereas the library in San Nicolas is open on Tuesday till 7.00 pm.

There will be secondhand books available in every genre for every taste. □



### 'Nature's' Presenting the interesting story & creations of Local Artist 'Rhoda Berg'



**Mrs. Rhoda Berg in conjunction with the Aruba Chamber of Commerce have the immense pleasure to open this ART exhibit titled 'Nature's'**

The exhibit features artwork by Mrs. Rhoda Berg. The art exhibit will open on the 8th of November at 5 pm and will remain in the Chamber of Commerce until September 2023.

During this time the artwork will be alternated with new, fresh artwork by Mrs. Rhoda Berg. Thus, there will always be exciting new artwork to see.

#### **Mrs. Rhoda Berg**

Rhoda Berg was born on april 11, 1957 on the island of Aruba. After being a fulltime teacher for more than 4 decades, Rhoda retired in 2018.

Rhoda discovered her talent in art-painting in her working days as a school teacher and after retiring she dedicated more time painting and began to love this art more and more and is dedicating more time painting on canvas. □



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## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors at Eagle Aruba Resort &amp; Casino

Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation and to say 'Masha Danki' to persons whom have visited Aruba for over 20 years consecutively.

This time, I was given the wonderful pleasure to honor couple **Mr. Joseph Karnathjr & Mrs. Gloria Kay Sapienza** from USA. Mr. Karnathjr has met so many locals over the years and still even talk about the first he met them.

This couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches and picturesque sunsets, its peacefulness



and beauty, our delicious drink water, and Aruba's warm and friendly people whom have become like

family to them.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Eagle Aruba Resort & Casino presented the certificate to the honor-

ees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □

## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors at Tamarijn All-Inclusive Resort

Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented to visitors whom have been visiting Aruba 10 years and more consecutively. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented to visitors whom have been visiting Aruba 20 years and more consecutively. Both certificates are given on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation, and to say 'Masha Danki' for continuously choosing Aruba after so many years.

The honorees were **Mr. Joakim & Mrs. Karin Walde-mark** as Distinguished Visitors from Sweden, and Mr. John & Mrs. Karen Mostacci from USA. It is incredibly

beautiful to see that Aruba has so many loyal visitors from all over, and we ensure to always make them feel welcomed and appreciated whenever they visit us in Aruba.

These wonderful people stated that they love visiting the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, its white sandy beaches and turquoise waters, its picturesque sunsets, its safety, its variety of

foods, and Aruba's warm and friendly people whom have become like family to them.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of the Tamarijn All-Inclusive Resort presented the certificates to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □



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# Don't forget to visit Aruba's famous Red Anchor

**At the south east coast of the island, standing alone on a windswept and barren land stands a popular Aruba landmark – a large anchor. It overlooks the sea just beyond, watching over the shipping lanes. It stands there in memory and in honor of all seamen who have lost their life at sea.**

## Where to Find the Anchor?

The anchor is a “must see” landmark when you visit Aruba. It is among the most photographed historical landmarks for the island. You want to make sure you add this stop on your itinerary when your visiting the south coast of Aruba. The bright red anchor against the backdrop of the deep blue Caribbean sea and the azure blue skies, make a great backdrop for your vacation pictures.

The anchor is located at the entrance to Gate 6 to the former Lago Colony. It is on the outskirts of Seroe Colorado, on the south east point of the island at the “T” junction to Baby Beach.

Depending on where you are staying on the island, follow the signs that

indicate the way to Baby Beach. Once you reach the T-junction, it will be right in front of you.

## About the Anchor Size

It will be hard to miss the anchor, it's huge! The anchor that weighs 21,772 kilos, is approximately 10 feet 6 inches wide and 15 feet, 6 inches tall.

On the anchor there are some numbers. The 4112 and 4115, which are believed to be the serial numbers that refer to the “fluke” or horizontal and vertical parts of the anchor, respectively. The number 21772K refers to the weight of the anchor in kilos.

This type of anchor was manufactured by Hoesch Dortmund Horde, at a foundry located in Germany.

## Where did the Anchor Come From?

There are a number of stories as to the origins of the anchor, which one do you think it was? (Unfortunately the mystery has never been solved, so your imagination can pick which one you think it might be!)

### Story 1:

“According to Mr. Manuel M. Curiel, an ex-

Lago Tug Captain, a fully laden VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) was seeking a mooring at the 15-mile anchorage, known as Bara, on the southern part of the island. This is the usual shallow mooring location for ships awaiting orders, etc. The weather was rough with strong current. The normal procedure is that they would walk out three shackles (about 90 feet) until the anchor touches the bottom while the chain must rest on the bottom. Subsequently, they will walk out some extra shackles and when the ship starts to swing or lean on one side, the anchor is properly set. Because of the rough weather, unfortunately they did not get the time to walk out the extra tackles and because of the tension exerted on the winch, it broke, and they lost the anchor and its chain.”

### Story 2:

“Mr. Curiel also said that at one time a small tanker with a Korean crew, while lifting their anchor also lifted another anchor near the inner harbor. When the ship asked for assistance, he went with his tugboat along with a barge, to help. But

eventually they had to cut the chain and let the anchor go to the bottom because they could not untangle them.”

## How Did The Anchor Become a Landmark?

Sometime between 1980 and 1985, three gentlemen (Mr. Wim Martinus – the Harbormaster of Aruba; Mr. August Genser – the ex-Division Superintendent of Lago's Laboratory; and Mr. Willie Davis – Owner of Filtec at Zeewijk in San Nicolas), were having a conversation with Mr. Charlie Brouns Jr. at his famous Charlie's Bar and Restaurant in San Nicolas. Charlie, who was a visionary and had dreams for developing the San Nicolas area, told these gentlemen that he would like to come up with something innovative for the San Nicolas area to draw tourism to the area.

The “anchor”, which at that time was being stored at the Oranjestad harbor, was suggested as an option. Charlie liked the idea! He then contacted the President of Lago for permission to acquire the anchor. He was granted permission and the anchor was then relocated to its present

location and dedicated “To All Seamen” on the occasion of the closing of the Lago Oil Refinery on March 31, 1985.

## Through the Years

Through the years the Anchor was slowly weathering from the wind and salt. As time passed, sadly the origin and purpose of the anchor slowly faded away from people's memories.

After Charles Brouns Jr died on September 15, 2004, his friend Mr. Sam Speziale, requested assistance from the management of Valero Aruba Refinery to help maintain the monument. The Valero Aruba Refinery, graciously sandblasted and painted the anchor and poured a concrete pad around it. On April 17, 2005, the anchor monument was rededicated “To All Seamen” in a formal ceremony in memory of Charles Brouns Jr.

Today, the anchor stands both as memorial to all seaman who have lost their lives at sea, but also as a silent reminder that Seroe Colorado is part of San Nicolas and that San Nicolas is still a vibrant and important part of the island of Aruba.



## The Best Time to Visit

When your planning your visit to the south end of the island, you will want to include in your itinerary the many things to see and do there. The anchor will be just one of these stops, (keep an eye out for our future editions, we publish our recommendations!).

With that being said, I have to say, if you enjoy catching a sunrise, the anchor is one of the best places on the island to catch the sunrise. But in reality, anytime is a good time to visit, depending on your personal schedule.☐



## Aruba National Park Foundation continued with consultation process for management of Marine Park



**ORANJESTAD – Aruba National Park Foundation (FPNA) as an independent organization in charge of conservation and management of terrestrial and marine protected areas in Aruba, announced that they have completed the consultation process for the management of the Marine Park Aruba in collaboration with more than 50 stakeholders.**

The two sessions took place on the 35<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of October and were a great success, seeing interactive participation and many different perspectives from

the stakeholders in crucial positions for the management of the Marine Park Aruba.

The Zoning and Regulations workshop was a session where participants from various organizations involved in nature, community, authority, fishing and tourism contributed to the regulatory management of the Marine Park Aruba. During this workshop, the team of Marine Park Aruba which falls under the Aruba National Park Foundation presented the results of sessions that took place in October 2021, which involved

the results of a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) and a situational analysis.

The participants also deliberated on how to incorporate these results in the zoning for the four marine protected areas (MPAs) that together form the Marine Park Aruba.

Sietske van der Wal, Interim Marine Park Manager of FPNA commented: "We are very satisfied on how the workshops went. The participation of our stakeholders is extremely important so that FPNA can finalize a management plan that takes into consideration not only the primary goal of conserving nature and marine life, but also incorporate social and economic aspects. In the name of FPNA, a want to thank all stakeholders for taking the time to meet with us and also for their valuable contribution."

The consultation sessions for the management of Marine Park Aruba that have just concluded will present their results and these will be incorporated in the management plan for the Marine Park Aruba. This will be shared with all stakeholders in the first quarter of 2023 so that they can give their point of view and after this process, FPNA can publish the management plan officially. □



## Aruban media icon, Ruben Garcia passed away



**ORANESTAD – Yesterday afternoon, the Aruban community was shaken by the news that beloved media personality – radio host and DJ – Ruben Garcia had passed away after some time in the hospital. Tributes began pouring in on social media as the community mourned the loss of an icon.**

Ruben Luis Garcia was of Latin American heritage, and his mother wanted him to be an English and Spanish teacher. However, in 1970 he got the opportunity to begin working in Radio Kelkboom as operator. One day, when the host left the studio, Garcia began his career in radio broadcasting.

During a special interview with our reporter in 2020, the radio host and one of the most well-known people in Aruba told how his trajectory in radio and television were the most successful moments of his life.

In 1971, he was chosen as part of the duo of Prins and Pancho during the Carnival season, and this is how everything began. Garcia said that he gained a lot of confidence on stage, which led to his own music show for the youth. He created his own discotheque called Scorpio, which made him very famous. From there came the idea of Scorpio disco, nowadays Nikki Beach, which was one of the biggest discotheques in Aruba.

In 1981, Garcia became a promoter bringing international artists to Aruba, and was responsible for bringing UB40, Juan Luis Guerra, Wilfrido Vargas, Kool & the Gang and others to the Aruban public.

Garcia later dedicated his time to radio and television combined with promotion, and in 2020 celebrated 20 years in the entertainment industry. Garcia said that in this world he achieved many important milestones, for example, when he brought UB40 to Aruba in 1994. He said that what for many seemed impossible, he managed to get 12,500 people to attend the concert, a record that according to him, 25 years later was not yet broken.

"Aruba lost a legend", the government of Aruba posted on its Facebook page. "A great person. In the name of the government of Aruba, we extend condolences to his family. May Ruben rest in peace." □



## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Jessica of

1 Half of a "Tootsie" '60s group

6 Mixes 44 Mount

11 Seething 45 Display disdain

12 Principle

13 Jacket

part

14 Reunion attendee

15 Vein yield

16 High hit

18 Oahu souvenir

19 Roofing supply

20 USN rank

21 Tourist stop

22 Flight makeup

24 Hill dwellers

25 Fit

27 Bottle topper

29 Anxious

32 Current unit

33 Half of hex-

34 Pod veggie

35 Crooner Tormé

36 "Man on the Moon" band

37 — Lobos

38 Gladden

40 Set off

42 Bolshevik leader

DOWN

1 Trial episodes

2 Turkish peak

3 Folded flier

4 Eroded

5 "Being There" star

6 Ticket remnants

7 High rating

8 Ramp, e.g.

D	I	A	N	A	T	A	P	A	S
I	D	I	O	M	E	J	E	C	T
P	E	S	T	O	N	A	T	T	Y
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O	R	A	L	P	R	E	E	N	S
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F	A	T	E	S	A	S	T	O	R

Yesterday's answer

9 Show 28 Brunch

mercy dish

10 Beer hall 30 "Mad

mugs Max"

17 Like director

driftwood Miller

23 Quill 31 Lent

need ender

24 Zoo 33 Leaning

resident accessory

26 Zoo 39 Suit

residents

27 Caravan 41 Scathing

critters review

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1						12			
3						14			
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35				36				37	
38			39			40	41		
42						43			
44						45			

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-4

CRYPTOQUOTE

M T W H U C T W F P A R O C

E F G R H L V H T U C R P F V C T W F

N G E R O C V K G N R V H T U U R P F V

— D T Y H N R H H T H

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AND THEN THE SUN TOOK A STEP BACK, THE LEAVES LULLED THEMSELVES TO SLEEP, AND AUTUMN WAS AWAKENED. — RAQUEL FRANCO

## On Wall Street, extreme punishments for weak profit reports

By STAN CHOE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When it comes to meeting Wall Street's expectations for profit and sales, it's put-up-or-get-beat-up time for CEOs.

It hasn't happened very often, but when companies have turned in both weaker profits and sales this reporting season than analysts expected, investors have walloped them with record-sized punishments for their stock prices.

Google's parent company Alphabet, for example, committed the sin of reporting \$69.1 billion in revenue for its latest quarter, instead of the \$71 billion that Wall Street expected, along with earnings below forecasts. Its stock plunged 9.1% the next day, its second-worst showing in more than a decade. That was 8.4 percentage points worse than the 0.7% drop



Numbers for the Dow Jones Industrial Average are displayed on a screen at the New York Stock Exchange on Sept. 13, 2022. The punishment has been extreme so far this earnings reporting season when companies report profits and sales that fall short of expectations.

for the overall market that same day, as measured by the S&P 500.

Alphabet isn't alone in feeling the pain. With just over half of all S&P 500 companies having reported their results for the summer, those that fell short of expectations for both profits and sales saw their stocks

perform 6.7 percentage points worse the next day than the S&P 500, according to a recent BofA Global Research report. That's a much bigger hit than usual and potentially on track for a record.

The historical average is just a 2.4 percentage point gap. □

## Wall Street moves lower as Fed presses on against inflation

By DAMIAN J. TROISE and Writers

ALEX VEIGA AP Business

Stocks are down on Wall



Traders work on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2022. Stocks are opening lower on Wall Street, Thursday, Nov. 3, and Treasury yields are again bumping up against multiyear highs a day after the Federal Reserve indicated that its fight against inflation is far from over.

Street and Treasury yields are again bumping up against multiyear highs Thursday, a day after the Federal Reserve indicated that its fight against inflation is far from over.

The S&P 500 fell 0.6% as of 2:44 p.m. Eastern. The benchmark index was roughly split between gainers and losers. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slipped 42 points, or 0.1%, to 32,106. The tech-heavy Nasdaq fell 1.2%. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 4.12% from 4.09% late Wednesday. Bond yields are hovering around multiyear highs as the Fed raises interest rates. That has prompted mortgage rates to more than double this year and it continues putting pressure on stocks. The yield on the two-year Treasury, which tends to track market expectations of future Fed action, rose to 4.72% from 4.61% □

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24/7



## Amazon pauses corporate hiring amid economic worries

By **HALELUYA HADERO** AP  
Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Amazon is pausing hiring for its corporate workforce, the latest move by the company to cut costs amid worries about the wider economic environment. Company executives have decided to halt "new incremental hires" for the entire corporate workforce and anticipate the pause to be in place for a few months, Beth Galetti, the senior vice president of people experience and technology, said in a memo posted on Amazon's website on Thursday. The company "will continue to monitor what we're seeing in the economy and the business to adjust as we

think makes sense," Galetti said. "We're facing an unusual macro-economic environment, and want to balance our hiring and investments with being thoughtful about this economy."

Depending on the business, Galetti noted Amazon will hire backfills to replace employees who leave the company. In some areas, it will continue to hire people incrementally.

In the past few weeks, Amazon had paused hiring for the corporate side of its retail division and some of its other businesses.

The company has also gotten rid of subsidiary Fabricom and shuttered its Amazon Care health service.

Galetti said the Seattle-based retail and tech giant still intends to hire a "meaningful number of people" next year. □



The Amazon logo is displayed at a news conference in New York on Sept. 28, 2011. Amazon is pausing hiring for its corporate workforce as the company moves to cut costs amid worries about the economic environment. Beth Galetti, the senior vice president of people experience and technology, said in a memo Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022, that company executives decided this week to halt "new incremental hires" for the entire corporate workforce.

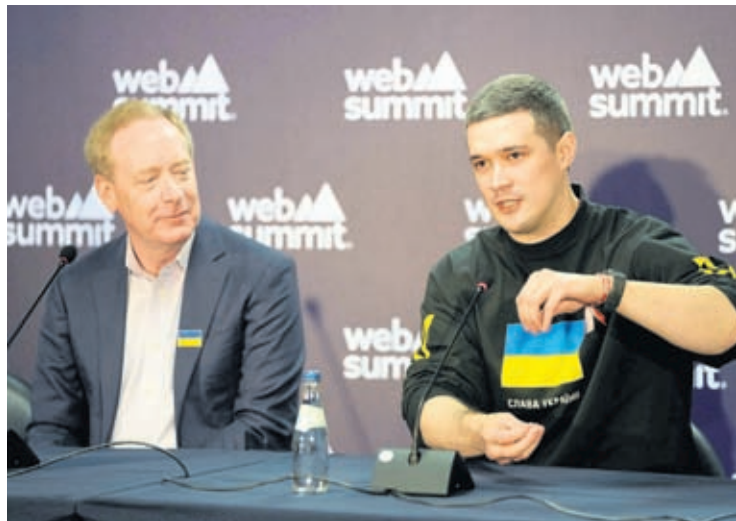
## Microsoft extends aid for Ukraine's wartime tech innovation

By **BARRY HATTON** Associated Press

**LISBON, Portugal (AP)** — Ukraine is counting on more Western technological support as its war against Russia drags on, with Microsoft pledging Thursday to extend its backing for Kyiv's "extraordinary" wartime innovation through the end of next year. Microsoft's financial commitment of more than \$400 million enables the Ukraine government and other organizations to continue using the Microsoft cloud and its public data centers across Europe, the company's president, Brad Smith, announced at the annual Web Summit tech conference in Lisbon, Portugal. Amazon has also been helping Ukraine with cloud storage, Mykhailo Fedorov, Ukraine's Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Transformation, said at the conference.

Cloud technology offers resilience and security for Ukraine operations, Smith said, after Russia targeted Ukrainian data centers with air strikes when it invaded more than eight months ago.

Before the Feb. 24 invasion Ukraine had a law prohibiting government agencies from using the cloud, forcing data to be stored



Ukraine's Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov gestures during a joint news conference with President and Vice Chairman of Microsoft Brad Smith, left, at the Web Summit technology conference in Lisbon, Portugal, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022.

Associated Press

locally. In March, the government scrapped that law.

The invasion triggered "extraordinary innovation" by the Ukrainian military, Smith said.

Ukraine and Russia are fighting "a new type of war," with cyberweapons and other types of digital technology playing a pivotal role, he said. □



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## Embattled actor Spacey to receive achievement award in Italy

**ROME (AP)** — Two weeks after a New York jury sided with Kevin Spacey in a sexual abuse lawsuit, an Italian film museum announced Thursday that the actor would receive a lifetime achievement award and teach a master class there early next year.

Enzo Ghigo, president of the National Museum of Cinema in the northern city of Turin, said the class and the award honoring Spacey's contribution to the growth of cinema would take place on Jan. 16, 2023. The event also is set to include a screening of a Spacey film, though Ghigo didn't say which.

"We are honored that such a prestigious guest as Kevin Spacey chose Turin and our museum for this long-awaited return to an event with an audience," he said.

Previous winners of the Stella della Mole Award include actors Isabella Rossellini and Monica Bellucci, and director Dario Argento. On Oct. 21, a federal jury in a New York civil case



**American actor Kevin Spacey, center, leaves the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Court House on Oct. 20, 2022, in New York. A film museum in Italy's city of Turin said Thursday, Nov. 3 that Spacey will receive a lifetime achievement award and teach a master class there early next year.**

found that Spacey, 63, did not sexually abuse Anthony Rapp when both were relatively unknown Broadway actors in 1986 and Rapp was 14 years old.

The jurors deliberated a little more than an hour before deciding that Rapp,

now 50, hadn't proven his allegations.

Rapp's #MeToo-era allegations, and those of others, derailed Spacey's soaring career.

The two-time Academy Award winning actor lost his starring role on the Net-

flix series "House of Cards" and saw other opportunities dry up.

Rapp is a regular on TV's "Star Trek: Discovery" and was part of the original Broadway cast of "Rent."

Spacey previously faced charges in Massachusetts

that he groped a man at a bar — allegations that were later dropped by prosecutors. Three months ago, he pleaded not guilty in London to charges he sexually assaulted three men between 2004 and 2015 when he was the artistic director at the Old Vic theater in London.

A judge in Los Angeles this summer approved an arbitrator's decision to order Spacey to pay \$30.9 million to the makers of "House of Cards" for violating his contract by sexually harassing crew members.

Spacey filmed his most recent movie, director Franco Nero's "The Man Who Drew God," in Turin.

"Now, among all of the cities of the world, he chose Turin for a master class. He couldn't give us a better present than this," Domenico De Gaetano, the director of the National Museum of Cinema, was quoted as saying in the news release. Gaetano plans to interview Spacey about his career at the January event. □

## Review: 'Salvatore' fetes a life devoted to feet and fashion



**This image released by Sony Pictures Classics shows Italian designer Salvatore Ferragamo with some of his shoe shapes. Ferragamo is the subject of the documentary "Salvatore: Shoemaker of Dreams"**

**By JOCELYN NOVECK AP National Writer**

Next time you arrive home with aching, blistered feet after a long day, take heart: It's not your feet that are the problem. It's your

shoes.

And that comes from the master, the late Salvatore Ferragamo, who pronounces in director Luca Guadagnino's loving documentary "Salvatore: Shoemaker

of Dreams" that in his entire career, "I have found there are no bad feet. There are bad shoes."

Now, whether you can afford a pair of Ferragamos to let your feet live their best lives is another question. But it's fascinating to learn how obsessively Ferragamo, born into a poor Italian farming family at the turn of the 20th century, studied the human foot in his quest to create the perfect shoe, combining creativity with, crucially, comfort.

"I love feet," he wrote. "They talk to me." He even studied anatomy as a night student at the University of Southern California, peppering the professor with questions about the skeleton but only the feet.

Working with the Ferragamo family, the director had an astonishing wealth of material to choose from: Between the family foundation and museum archives, numerous family members to interview,

a slew of top cultural commentators and also some wonderful old Hollywood footage, you can almost feel Guadagnino efforting to get it all in.

Then again, he knows some of us could watch films about Hollywood, about fashion, and especially about great shoes all day long.

We begin, though, with Ferragamo's youth as the 11th of 14 children, in Bonito, a village near Naples. Pushing back against his father's views that shoemaking is a lowly career, he proves his worth by producing overnight a pair of spiffy shoes for his sister's confirmation. He apprentices with a cobbler at age nine, is making shoes by 11, and at 16 boards a ship to America. After a quick stop in Boston he hops a train and heads west to Santa Barbara, California, where a fledgling movie industry is emerging. As director Martin Scorsese says the best of many

commentators here in California, "anything goes. You could make yourself over three or four times."

Watching early Westerns, Ferragamo knows he could make better cowboy boots and he does.

Then he graduates to all sorts of movie shoes, including 12,000 sandals for Cecil B. DeMille's 1923 silent epic "The Ten Commandments." His name grows and his fans include the biggest stars of the day Swanson, Mary Pickford, Lillian Gish, Douglas Fairbanks (and in later years, everyone from Greta Garbo to Audrey Hepburn to Marilyn Monroe.)

He relocates to Hollywood, where he lives near Charlie Chaplin and Valentino stops by to chat in Italian. He establishes his own store, a magnet for stars.

Then in 1927 Ferragamo returns to Italy, choosing Florence as a base for his plan to use Italian artisanal labor to make shoes destined for clients in America. □



## Barcelona defender Gerard Pique announces retirement

**BARCELONA, Spain (AP)** — Barcelona defender Gerard Pique, a three-time Champions League winner with the Spanish club, has announced his retirement at age 35. Pique said in a video posted on his Twitter account

Thursday that "this Saturday will be my last game at Camp Nou." "It is the moment to end this stage of my life," Pique said. "I always said that after Barcelona there will be no other club, and that is the way it is going to be."

Pique has played 615 games for Barcelona, scoring 52 goals. In addition to the treble of European Cups, he helped Barcelona win eight Spanish league titles and seven Copa del Rey crowns among other titles.

As a former Spain player, he helped his country win the 2010 World Cup and the 2012 European Championship. But after being a set starter for most of his career, Pique lost his starting job this season after Barcelona

brought in new players at his position of center back. Barcelona hosts Almería on Saturday. Pique's retirement comes after he split up with pop star Shakira, the mother of his two children, this summer. □

## US Embassy officials visit Brittney Griner in Russia prison



WNBA star and two-time Olympic gold medalist Brittney Griner speaks to her lawyers standing in a cage at a court room prior to a hearing, in Khimki just outside Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, July 26, 2022. A Russian court has on Tuesday, Oct. 23 started hearing American basketball star Brittney Griner's appeal against her nine-year prison sentence for drug possession.

**By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Officials at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow visited jailed WNBA star Brittney Griner on Thursday, just weeks after a Russian court rejected her appeal of her nine-year sentence for drug possession. State Department spokesman Ned Price said in a tweet that the American representatives "saw firsthand her tenacity and perseverance despite her present circumstances." Price said the Biden administration is continuing to press for the immediate release of Griner and Paul Whelan, who was sentenced in 2020 to 16 years in prison in Russia on espionage-related charges that he and his family say are bogus, and "fair treatment

for every detained American." White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Griner "is doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances" and that the administration was working "to resolve the current unacceptable and wrongful detentions" of Griner and Whelan. Griner was convicted in August after police said they found vape canisters containing cannabis oil in her luggage at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport. Her arrest in February came at a time of heightened tensions between Moscow and Washington, just days before Russia sent troops into Ukraine. At that time, Griner was returning to play for a Russian team during the WNBA's offseason. She admitted at her trial to

having the canisters in her luggage but testified she packed them inadvertently in her haste to make her flight and had no criminal intent. Her lawyers have called the punishment excessive. The United States regards Griner and Whelan as wrongful detainees and has been trying to negotiate with Russia for their release. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said over the summer that the U.S. had made a "substantial proposal" to Russia to try to get both home. People familiar with the offer have said the U.S. wanted to swap Whelan and Griner for convicted Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout. There have been no outward signs of progress since then in the negotiations. □



Kansas City Royals bench coach Pedro Grifol meets with Detroit Tigers manager A.J. Hinch and the umpires before the start of their baseball game in Kansas City, Mo., Monday, June 14, 2021. The Chicago White Sox hired Kansas City Royals bench coach Pedro Grifol to replace Hall of Famer Tony La Russa as their manager, a person familiar with the situation said on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the team has not announced the hiring.

## White Sox make it official, say Grifol is their new manager

**By ANDREW SELIGMAN AP Sports Writer**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — The Chicago White Sox say they have hired Kansas City Royals bench coach Pedro Grifol to replace Hall of Famer Tony La Russa as their manager. The White Sox announced the move Thursday after Grifol agreed to take the job earlier in the week. General manager Rick Hahn mentioned in a statement the 52-year-old Grifol's experience in a variety of coaching and scouting roles at the major and minor league levels. He also cited the fact that Grifol is bilingual and called him a "modern baseball thinker." "He is an excellent communicator and an experienced game planner who brings a high energy and detail-oriented approach to leadership," Hahn said. "He is committed to building an inclusive and cohesive clubhouse, and we could not be happier to have Pedro leading our club." The 52-year-old Grifol will try to lift a team coming off a disappointing season. The White Sox finished second in the AL Central at 81-81 and missed the playoffs after running away with the division in 2021. La Russa missed the final 34 games because of health problems and announced he would not return, ending a disappointing two-year run with the franchise that gave him his first job as a big league skipper. Grifol spent the past 10 seasons in a variety of coaching roles with Kansas City under former managers Ned Yost and Mike Matheny. He was part of teams that captured back-to-back pennants and won the World Series in 2015. □



# A giant Maradona emerges in Argentina, days before World Cup

By DÉBORA REY

Associated Press

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina**

(AP) — In the middle of the concrete jungle that is Argentina's bustling capital, a huge mural has emerged of Diego Maradona wearing a national team jersey, his right hand in a fist and a defiant expression on his face.

The massive artwork, 148 feet high and 131 feet wide (45 meters by 40 meters) and painted on the side of a 14-story building in Buenos Aires, is one of several tributes that Argentines have dedicated to their soccer "God" shortly before the start of this year's World Cup in Qatar, the first since Maradona's death on Nov. 25, 2020. Maradona's feats and defeats as a player on the national team are being remembered, from the famous and infamous goals against England before the county won the 1986 World Cup to the failed final against West Germany four years later, and the doping test that got him expelled from the following World Cup in 1994.

Well-known street artist



Women play with balls during the inauguration of a mural of Diego Maradona by artist Martin Ron in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022. Sunday marks the birth date of Maradona who died on Nov. 25, 2020 at the age of 60

Martín Ron was behind the world's largest mural, inspired by a photograph of the then-Argentina captain that captures his expression shortly before he sang the national anthem at the 1990 World Cup final against West Germany, which Argentina lost 1-0. "It's a photo of Diego when he was close to winning the

country's third star," Ron told The Associated Press during a break from the work he began a month ago.

Argentina also won the World Cup in 1978, but Maradona didn't make the team for that tournament. To one side of Maradona's face, Ron painted a constellation of stars in the shape of a kite, a refer-

ence to his nickname "cosmic kite," which is what one well-known radio commentator called the soccer star following his second goal against England in 1986.

Ron's mural was officially unveiled on Sunday to coincide with the soccer great's birthday. Days earlier, the Argentine soccer association re-

ceived the original jersey that Maradona wore in the 1986 World Cup.

It was a gift from Germany great Lothar Matthäus, who exchanged jerseys with Maradona after the final that Argentina won 3-2 at the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City.

Matthäus' donation was a sort of reparation for Argentina after it failed to win an auction for the jersey Maradona wore in the match against England in the quarterfinals of that World Cup tournament. An unknown bidder from outside the country bought the iconic item at auction for a record \$9 million in May.

In 1994, Maradona played his last World Cup match against Nigeria in the group stage. He was suspended for 15 months following the 2-1 victory after a positive doping test.

One of the most disturbing images came eight years later at the 2018 World Cup in Russia when an overweight and somewhat disoriented Maradona collapsed at the stadium in St. Petersburg following a 2-1 victory over Nigeria. □

# Packers and Lions meet with combined 9-game losing streak

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** — The Green

Bay Packers and Detroit Lions are struggling.

One team is used to it.

The three-time defending NFC North champion Packers (3-5) have lost four straight and are aiming to avoid their first five-game skid in 14 years.

The Lions (1-6) look like they're headed for a fifth straight last-place finish in the division, losing five in a row before November for the second time in two years under coach Dan Campbell.

On Sunday at Ford Field, longtime rivals that have combined for nine straight setbacks will meet and one will earn a desperately needed victory unless they finish with a fitting tie.

**TRADE WINDS**

Green Bay did not make

a trade before this week's deadline to potentially bolster its chances of making the playoffs for the fourth time in coach Matt LaFleur's four seasons.

Detroit, meanwhile, traded arguably its best player to the NFC North-leading Minnesota Vikings on Tuesday to improve positioning in the next two drafts.

Lions general manager Brad Holmes said the dealing 25-year-old tight end T.J. Hockenson made sense for the franchise's "build phase," and insisted he would have dealt Hockenson even if his one-win team had a 6-1 record.

While the trade might've made sense in the long term, it does not seem to help this season.

**RODGERS' THUMB**

Rodgers has been playing through an injury the past few weeks after hurting

his right thumb on the final play of a 27-22 loss to the New York Giants in London. The reigning MVP was a limited practice participant Wednesday, an encouraging sign because he missed the previous three Wednesday practices to rest his thumb.

**FORMER TEAMMATES FACE OFF**

Green Bay selected Williams out of BYU in the fourth round of the 2017 draft and drafted Aaron Jones out of UTEP one round later.

Jones and Williams were teammates in Green Bay for four years. Williams left for Detroit in free agency after the Packers didn't make much of an effort to keep him.

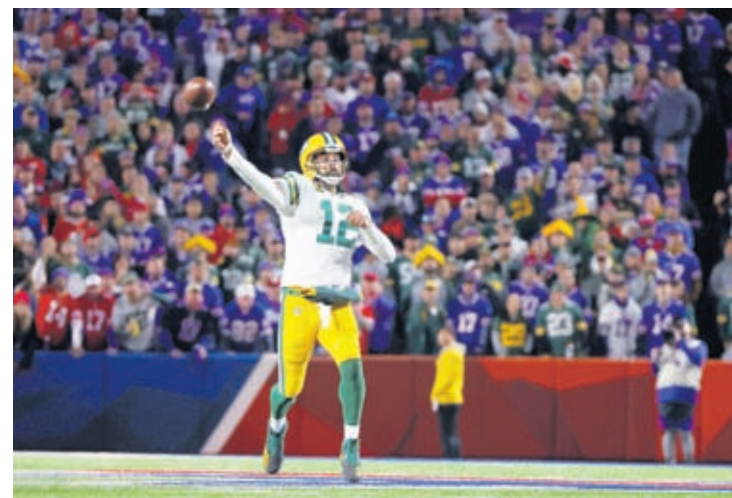
Williams has eight touchdown runs to rank second in the NFL. Jones has run for 575 yards, ranking fifth in the league.

**TOURE'S TIME**

The Packers need a playmaker to emerge from their injury-riddled receiving corps and that could lead to more opportunities for rookie Samori Toure.

Toure, a seventh-round pick from Nebraska, had a 37-yard score in the Packers'

27-17 loss at Buffalo for his second career catch and first touchdown. The play showed Toure is starting to shed the label he received from Rodgers last summer. The Packers have been dealing with injuries at receiver all season. □



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) throws a touchdown pass during the second half of an NFL football game against the Buffalo Bills Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, in Orchard Park.